

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 03204 010935Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 CPR-01 SS-15 L-03 CIAE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 /047 W
-----072636 011524Z /53
R 010932Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8407
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 03204

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ETRD, EEWT, UR
SUBJECT: SOVIETS SUSPEND DRIVER'S LICENSE OF AMEXCO
DEPUTY REPRESENTATIVE IN MOSCOW

REF: (A) MOSCOW 01277, (B) STATE 47673

1. MOSCOW DEPUTY REPRESENTATIVE FOR AMEXCO, JOHN MARSCHALKO, REPORTED TO COMATT FEBRUARY 27 THAT HE HAD BEEN TO GAI STATION ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, ACCOMPANIED BY JUNIOR OFFICIAL OF INTOURIST'S PROTOCOL SECTION, TO INQUIRE ABOUT HIS CONFISCATED SOVIET DRIVER'S LICENSE. MARSCHALKO WAS INFORMED BY GAI OFFICER THAT HIS DRIVER'S LICENSE HAD BEEN SUSPENDED FOR TWO YEARS (EXACT LENGTH OF HIS RECORDED INTENTION TO STAY IN USSR) ON GROUNDS THAT HE HAD BEEN APPREHENDED WHILE DRIVING IN "INTOXICATED CONDITION." MARSCHALKO WAS TOLD THAT ALTHOUGH HE HAD RIGHT TO APPEAL GAI DECISION, HIS DRIVER'S LICENSE WAS SUSPENDED AS FROM DATE OF POSTANOVLENIYE, OR FEBRUARY 17, 1978. ACCORDING TO DECREE OF PRESIDUM OF SUPREME SOVIET OF RSFSR DATED JUNE 19, 1972, CITED ON POSTANOVLENIYE, MARSCHALKO MUST PAY FINE OF THIRTY
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RUBLES BEFORE MARCH 4, 1978, OR FACE IMPRISONMENT
OF 24 MONTHS.

2. WE HAVE ADVISED MARSCHALKO TO PAY FINE UNDER PROTEST AND HAVE ARRANGED FOR HIM TO MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVE OF INYURKOLLEGIYA TO DISCUSS LEGAL STEPS HE MAY TAKE IN ORDER TO APPEAL HIS CASE. IN ABSENCE OF INFORMATION TO

CONTRARY, WE MUST ASSUME THAT THERE HAVE BEEN NO RECENT
INSTANCES OF INTOURIST EMPLOYEES IN NEW YORK PULLED
IN FOR DRUNK DRIVING. NOR DO WE SEE ANY CONNECTION
BETWEEN MARSCHALKO CASE AND INCIDENTS REPORTED
STATE 47673. NONETHELESS, WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN
DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS ON THIS MATTER, ESPECIALLY IN
VIEW OF MARSCHALKO'S DESCRIPTION OF CIRCUMSTANCES
SURROUNDING HIS APPREHENSION (REFTEL A) AND HIS STAUNCH
ARGUMENT THAT LIKE VIRTUALLY ALL OTHER GUESTS, HE HAD
HAD NO MORE THAN A DRINK OR TWO AT FINNAIR RECEPTION
JUST BEFORE HE WAS APPREHENDED. MATLOCK

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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